



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### SEDIMENT AND EROSION CONTROL PLAN

#### 1. Where does this requirement come from?

The regulation adopted in September 2013 required the Third-Party Coalitions to prepare a Sediment Discharge and Erosion Assessment Report (SDEAR) for the lands within their respective coverage areas and submit that report to the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board). The Coalitions were required to identify areas with a higher risk of sediment erosion caused by rainfall or irrigation on irrigated lands and its risk to local surface water bodies.

For the identified parcels in the SDEAR, growers need to complete the approved Sediment and Erosion Control (SECP) Template. The template was designed for growers to consider available management practices that can assist with preventing or minimizing the potential for erosion. The template needs to be certified and kept on-farm in the event of an inspection from the Regional Board.

#### 2. When does the SECP Template need to be completed?

The official regulatory timelines are dependent upon whether your operation is designated as a small farming operation or a large farming operation. Large farming operations are members with 60 or more irrigated acres and small farming operations are those less than 60 irrigated acres.

Operation Size	Completion Date (on-farm)
Small Farming Operation (less than 60 irrigated acres)	October 6, 2016
Large Farming Operation (60+ irrigated acres)	April 3, 2016

#### 3. Does the Template need to be Certified?

Yes. There are a number of ways to get your plan certified. The available options are identified on page 7 of the SECP Template. More information on the certification options are located on page 2 of the instructions provided. A self-certification option is not currently available, but coalition groups in the Central Valley are working with the Regional Board to format a certification class that the Executive Officer will approve. **You will be notified when the Regional Board has approved the grower self-certification class.**

#### 4. How much does the Professional Certification Cost?

The costs for certification will depend upon the professional that you hire and your site specific conditions. A ballpark estimate given by a local engineering firm was around \$500. The coalition is not able to recommend a specific business or professional beyond identifying the available qualified professional types.

#### 5. What does the template cover?

The template is similar to the Sediment and Erosion Practices (Part E) of the Farm Evaluation, but contains additional practices that have the potential to minimize soil erosion. Select the practices that are effective on your farming operation.